

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, I, with all the hostility on the issue, I thought this was a reasonable proposal. I just asked Senator Johnson, he said he didn't want to bracket it. Of course the word is zipping through the floor that the Governor said now he is going to veto it, if it does pass in the present form. I question whether people are seriously interested in a bank tax, raising money like they said, or in saving face. I could care less at this point. I think the amendment and the tax will be raised in the amounts required. I think you ought to do something with it. But maybe the best thing to do is bracket it until January. LB 619 is going to raise you some money this year. It is going to raise a lot of money. When you deal with 619 at least talk about it honestly, which has never been done on this floor. Honestly means you consider how much it raised and you consider the economic conditions, and then you don't say...you give a figure after all the deductions. The deductions are a completely independent thing, but 619 in and of itself raised a heck of a lot of money and did a good job. Remember that the banks themselves took about 140, 150 million in losses last year. I suspect when you get the numbers in this year it is going to be equally bad or worse. I think the taxing of the banks has become kind of a cause celebret without as much substance as maybe some of these issues should have, and with maybe more personality than principle involved in some of the matters and some of the ways it is handled. For that reason I think Senator Landis and some of the others are going to study over the summer, maybe six months or seven months of really intense study and learning about this issue might produce some different attitudes by January. For that reason, I would offer the motion to bracket.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator DeCamp has filed his motion to bracket the bill. Senator Vard Johnson. Then the speaking order is Senator Miller, Beutler and Haberman.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I oppose the bracket motion. I'd rather fight 717 out and lose it, and lose it gloriously, than to simply defer it. It is time to play the man or the woman, the adult. We are simply...if this bill was bracketed we are just simply deferring a problem for another year, and allowing a community, a favored community in our state to essentially avoid state taxation. I didn't bring the figures up to the floor with me this morning about the